

fish and game in the district; will raise anything Vancouver Island will raise, and more; three large saw mills, employing 600 people; a grist mill, distillery, Farmers' Society, etc. About 200 settlers located themselves in this district during 1874.

"The *Mainland Guardian* (New Westminster Journal) said, in March, 1872: A minimum yield of from thirty to forty bushels of wheat to the acre is the ordinary average yield in the districts of Kamloops, Okanagan, Nicola, Sumass, Chilliwack, and the Lower Fraser. Between the town of New Westminster and the mouth of the river, a yield very much exceeding this is often obtained, not because of better or more suitable soil, but solely due to more careful cultivation; 50 bushels of oats, and an equal yield of barley, per acre, are commonly reached. Indian corn yields per acre 60 or 70 bushels. The yield of roots and green crops is generally encouraging, being unsurpassed by any in the world.

"On one farm the yield of potatoes was seven tons, on another as high as fifteen tons per acre. Not a few specimens reached the enormous weight of 2½ and even 3 lbs. Turnips give 25 tons to the acre. Onions from four to six tons; while carrots, cabbages, beets, cauliflowers, etc., grow to a size which may, without exaggeration, be described as enormous.

"Of fruits it may be enough to state, that the ordinary kinds (apples, pears, plums, cherries, currants, gooseberries, strawberries, etc.,) found in the eastern part of the Dominion and in England, grow luxuriantly and yield plentifully."

NEW WESTMINSTER DISTRICT.—SPECIAL DESCRIPTION.

"I will describe the New Westminster district, beginning at the mouth of the River Fraser:—

"We find there extensive, low, rich, 'tidelands or flats,' free from timber, with patches of willows, rose bushes, and, about the border of higher ground, crab-apples. A coarse grass called 'swamp hay' is plentiful. There are a good many salt water sloughs, which add to the difficulty of dyking.

"Farm after farm is being occupied in this section, and there is room for settlers. There are 29,000 acres of very good land in an island between the north and south arm of the Fraser.

"On the north arm, a small settlement of about twenty farmers; 500 acres cultivated; samples of white and red wheat, described as 5½ ft. high, yielding 50 bushels to the acre; average, of course, less. Two potatoes ('Breeley Prolific') yielded 67 lbs. Timothy hay, barley, oats, peas, etc., good."

"A district exactly like the mouth of Fraser district, indeed part of it, within the United States territory, near the mouth of the Lummi, and back from Semiahmoo, is filling up with population rapidly.

"Ascending the Fraser, we in no long time come to forests on each side; giant pine; cedars, alders, maple, cottonwood; real agricultural value of land cannot be seen. Luxuriant vegetation in the forest—berry bushes of all kinds, also ferns, ground-creepers, moss

—the sweet scented white flowers of the wild apple tree shine among the green foliage of summer. Scenery and products altogether on a grand scale. But let the settler take heart; he is beside the sea here, no railway carriage to the seaboard? there is much good land requiring little clearing, plenty well worth the clearing. There are in parts extensive flats covered with wild hay, also fine prairies with fertile soil, excellent crops and dairy yield, thriving farms near the town of New Westminster, and settlements also at Pitt River, Keatsey, Langley, Matsqui, etc. For instance, at Pitt River 20,000 acres of good arable land, requiring no clearing—the part of it subject to freshets is good now for grazing."

"At Larg'ey, a newspaper correspondent (*Daily Standard*, Victoria, November, 1872) describes farms with 'several hundred acres of alluvial soil, black mould with clay bottom; at your feet several square miles of green meadow land, the gleaming river beyond, and across it the dark Cascade range; a stream, full of trout, meandering through the meadow.' Another farm of '100 acres, every part cultivated, drained, and laid off into large parks of thirty to forty acres each; the steading in the form of a square; a fine mansion house.' Another of '800 acres, 200 cultivated, fine black soil, all fit for the plough, drained by a stream which skirts it.' Again, '600 acre grass dairy farm; cows, Durham breed; farmer cures butter.' The next, '300 acres, the stock and crop owned by the blacksmith. Good public school; neat Presbyterian Church.' The writer ascribes an extraordinary production to these farms."

"Higher up the river still, where the rivers Sumass and Chilliwack join the Fraser, are rising settlements—Sumass Prairie, 25,000 acres. Prime beef, choice butter and cheese, fine cereals, wide-spreading fertile prairies and valleys here, thinly peopled yet; sixty to eighty farms; good dwellings, barns, stables, churches, schools, shops, grist-mill; 600 acres wheat raised last year, forty to fifty bushels an acre; 200 acres oats; also potatoes, peas, beans, hops, fruit and even tobacco; supply beef to Yale and Hope (Yale gets some beef also from Nicola); extent of prairies great; much good land also on the Chilliwack above the valley that would do well when cleared."

OKANAGAN COUNTRY.

"Very fine stock country, and will also produce grain; yield fall wheat only without irrigation; also profusely oats, barely, Indian corn, potatoes, tomatoes, musk-melons, water-melons, grape-vines, tobacco. Summer warm, has shown 93° in the shade, cold is sharp in winter, but weather clear and sunny, snow seldom deep, and never lies long, cattle, horses and sheep as a rule, unshoused in winter; moderate preparation, however, recommended.

"The lake, seventy miles long by one and a-half miles wide; country to the east of it a fair sample of the best districts between Rocky and Cascade ranges; open, grassy hills, dotted with trees like English parks, successive hills and dales; lakes, ponds, and streams full